THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) No such report has so far been received by the Central Government.

Action against polluting industries

3046. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have deferred action against polluting industries which have failed to take air and water pollution control measures even after the expiry of deadline;

(b) if so, the reasons for relaxation of the deadline;

(c) whether a sizeable number of large and medium industrial units in a several key sectors would face closure under the provisions of Air and Water (pollution control) Acts; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to assist industries financially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments, has issued a notification under which:—

(i) An industry, operation or process which has commenced production on or before 16th May, 1981 and has shown adequate proof of at least commencement of physical work for establishment of facilities to meet the specified standards within a time-bound programme, to the satisfaction of the concerned, State Pollution Control Board, shall comply with such standards latest by the 31st day of December, 1993.

(ii) An industry operation or process which has commenced production after the 16th day of May, 1981 but before the 31st day of December, 1991 and has shown adequate proof of at least commencement of physical work for establishment of facilities to meet the specified standards within a time-bound programme, to the satisfaction of the concerned State Pollution Control Board, shall comply with such standards latest by the 31st day of December, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Convention on Ecology, Environment and Development

3047. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a convention on ecology, environment and development of Indian Peninsula is proposed to be organised during March, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of participants;

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure that convention achieves its objectives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Forest wealth in Orissa

3048. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forest wealth in Orissa is being degraded every day;

(b) whether there is an urgent need for increasing forest coverage in Orissa;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to stop the unabated felling of trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) As per the visual interpretation of satellite imagery of forest cover in Orissa pertaining to the period 1985—87 and 1987—89 by Forest Survey of India, there has been slight decrease in the total forest cover to the tune of 22 Sq. Kms. only.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Orissa have taken stringent measures for increasing forest cover and also for conservation of forests. Some of the important measures are detailed below:—

(i) Commercial tree felling have been banned in five tribal districts of Bolangir, Phulbani, Kalahandi, Koraput & Ganjam covering an area of 28,635 Sq. Kms. of forests.

(ii) Involvement of people in protection of reserved forests and protected forests through assignment of peripheral forests to Village Forest Protection Committees (5589 in Nos.), covering forest areas of 13,996 Sq. Kms.

(iii) Special Protection Force have been deployed and also very high frequency Wireless Sets have been installed in five Territorial divisions.

(iv) Social Forestry Plantation programmes in 2039 village forests have been taken up.

Environment Projection Act

3049. **SHRI P. UPENDRA**: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that environment clearance from the State Pollution Control Boards and or the Central Government is compulsory for all new industrial units and for any expansion or modernisation of existing units; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to amend the Environment Protection Act, 1986 to achieve this object?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Only the public sector industrial projects with an investment of more than Rs. 20 crores presently require environmental clearance from the Central Government. State pollution Control Boards do not give environmental clearance. A preliminary notification has been issued on 29th January, 1992 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for making environmental clearance a mandatory requirement so that adverse environmental impacts can be controlled for private sector projects also.

वन्यप्राणी संरक्षण अधिनियम

3050. **श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग** : क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वन्य प्राणी संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1972 में 2 अक्टूबर, 1991 से कोई संशोधन किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या ये संशोधन मध्य प्रदेश पर भी लागू होते हैं ; और

(ग) इस अधिनियम को कार्यान्वित किए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप वर्तमान में मध्य प्रदेश में आदिवासियों/किसानों को सप्लाई किए जा रहे विभिन्न वनोपजों की जो कमी होगी, उसकी क्षतिपूर्ति करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार ने क्या प्रबंध किए ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री कमलनाथ) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां ।